

protect forests or continue to allow the construction of roads into our nation's remaining pristine forest areas.

For the past thirty years, Congress has been part of the debate over protecting national forests from activities that put economic interests above ecological concerns. We have had debate after debate on the merits of a 380,000 mile road network, the role of taxpayer dollars in expanding the existing network, and the appropriate balance between preservation and multiple-use.

News reports indicate that the Bush Administration plans to dilute or overturn the historic roadless conservation plan proposed under the Clinton Administration.

Over 1 million Americans submitted comments to the Forest Service during the lengthy public comment period in which over 600 public hearings were held, including at least one hearing for each national forest that might be affected by the policy.

More Americans spoke out in favor of this historic conservation plan than on any other federal rule-making in history. The public is clear—it wants to protect America's remaining pristine forests.

The problem that the Bush Administration faces on this issue is that some very powerful—if narrow—special interests do not want what the public wants. They want new roads built in the remaining 31 percent of our national forests where today there are no roads for the purposes of logging, mining, and oil and gas drilling.

Mr. Speaker, these special interests are not concerned about the tradeoff between the long-term ecological damage caused by those activities and the very limited amount of natural resources available for extraction if new roads are to be built. They are not concerned about the fact that more communities depend on fresh water from national forests than from extractive industries. They are not concerned that the recreational value of our national forests is of critical importance to the majority of Americans and that roadbuilding often conflicts with recreational opportunities.

Congress has learned, after many pitched battles, that the public does not want to pay for constructing new roads into the remaining portions of our national forests that are undisturbed. My fear is that the Administration has not learned this.

With all due respect to the President, his administration should spend more time protecting America's environment and public lands and less time protecting the special interest corporations who clearly have captured his attention.

But I am pleased to say that over 130 of my Democratic Colleagues have joined me in urging President Bush to immediately implement the forest conservation policy that was finalized on January 12—without loopholes and without delays. In March, 22 Republican colleagues wrote their own letter to the President with the same message.

The American public should know that some of us in Congress have heard their appeal on protecting the remaining forests in which there are no roads. But they need to be equally aware that the Administration has already shown its willingness to ignore public sentiment in its zeal to please its special interest allies. President Bush abandoned his pledge to regulate carbon dioxide, for example, and he appears to be close to abandoning his

pledge not to drill for oil off of Florida's protected coastline.

We must assume then that he will be willing to ignore public sentiment again and open our remaining pristine forests to road-building despite the public's opposition to such a move.

We are sending a clear message to the President to protect our remaining forests. We hope that he will heed our call and the call of the American people.

I submit for the RECORD a copy of the letter that I and over 130 of my colleagues sent to President Bush on Wednesday, May 2, 2001.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
Washington, DC, May 1, 2001.

THE PRESIDENT,  
The White House,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: By May 4, 2001, your Administration must publicly articulate its policy on the protection of roadless areas in our national forests. There are few public land issues of greater import to the majority of Americans. Many of us in Congress care deeply about carefully managing America's critical natural resources and protecting the remaining pristine areas in our national forests. The Roadless Area Conservation Policy finalized by the Forest Service on January 12, 2001 represents a balanced, scientifically based, publicly supported policy. We strongly urge you to immediately implement the policy as finalized, without exceptions or loopholes.

As you know, the Roadless Area Conservation Policy will protect 58.5 million acres of pristine national forest land. This balanced policy protects the remaining pristine regions of our national forests from logging, mining, and energy exploration, while allowing those activities to proceed on the majority of national forest lands. Currently, our national forests contain over 383,000 miles of roads. The forest conservation policy does not limit public access on the current road infrastructure or regulate off-road vehicle use. Nor does the policy limit recreation opportunities. The policy does allow the Forest Service to concentrate its efforts on addressing the tremendous maintenance backlog instead of constructing expensive and controversial new roads which will add to the maintenance burden in the future.

America's leading scientists have repeatedly informed us that the roadless portions of our national forests are not only the most significant habitat for fish and wildlife, but are critical sources of clean drinking water for over 60 million Americans. As our population grows and open space succumbs to development, watersheds on public lands are increasingly important.

The forest conservation policy is the result of an unprecedented public input process and has overwhelming public support. Claims by opponents of this policy that it is just an 11th hour regulation by the previous Administration are unfounded. The debate over roadless area management has been fought in the courts and the Congress for over 30 years. The path towards an affirmative policy on roadless area management began in January 1998 with the Forest Service's announcement of a proposed road-building moratorium. The final policy released on January 12, 2001 received more public comment than any other federal rulemaking process in our nation's history. It is a product of over 600 public meetings, including several in every single national forest in the nation. At its conclusion, the agency had received input from over 1.6 million Americans, the vast majority of whom supported the policy, with a remarkable level of support for the inclusion of the Tongass National Forest in Alaska.

The Roadless Area Conservation Policy is not a partisan issue. It is about the future of our national forests and our ability as a nation to manage them in a sustainable manner and to the benefit of all the diverse interests who seek their use. We implore you not to cash in on the short-term and short-sighted opportunity to extract resources from our pristine forests in a manner that will permanently diminish them. Instead, we urge you to take the opportunity now before you to preserve these forests for future generations.

We appreciate your consideration of our views and we look forward to working with you to ensure that America's great forest legacy will be preserved.

Sincerely,

George Miller, Nick Rahall, Jay Inslee, Maurice Hinchey, Frank Pallone, James Moran, Richard Gephardt, David Bonior, Henry Waxman, Nancy Pelosi, Ellen Tauscher, Mark Udall.

Original cosponsors continued: J. Maloney, Blagojevich, Doggett, Kilpatrick, Capuano, Levin, Clement, Baldwin, Roybal-Allard, Clay, McKinney, Kennedy, Delahunt, T. Udall, Allen, Rangel, Hoyer, Honda, Harman, Eshoo, Schiff, Neal, Oliver, Holt, Lee, Millender-McDonald, W. Jefferson, John Lewis, D. Price, S. Brown, Borski, E.B. Johnson, A. Smith, Tierney, Filner, Frank, McGovern, DeGette, Kildee, Markey, DeLauro, Ford, Farr.

Clayton, Solis, Evans, McCollum, Napolitano, Wexler, Crowley, Hastings, Blumenauer, McDermott, Nadler, Gordon, Matsui, Waters, Boucher, D. Davis, Towns, Woolsey, Rivers, Baldacci, Pascarella, Larsen, Hoeffel, Rush, Serrano, Kaptur, Stark, Conyers, Moore, Capps, Lantos, Sanders, Ackerman, S. Davis, Wu, McNulty, LaFalce, Berkeley, Larson, Cummings, Hooley, Menendez, Rothman, Velázquez, B. Thompson.

Abercrombie, Watt, Berman, Becerra, Matheson, Lowey, Kucinich, Deutsch, Schakowsky, Mink, Sanchez, C. Brown, Meehan, Scott, DeFazio, Gonzalez, Wynn, Bentzen, Langevin, Green, Gutierrez, Payne, Jones, Meek, Jackson, Jr., Hinojosa, Reyes, C. Maloney, C. McCarthy, Fattah, Sabo, Norton, K. McCarthy, Weiner, Andrews, Slaught-

#### THE RETIREMENT OF SUZANNE S. KERR

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an advisor, friend and national advocate for peace, Suzy Kerr. This month Suzy will be completing her responsibilities as Executive Director of PeacePAC at the Council for a Livable World after over 10 years of service.

While working with PeacePAC and the Council, Suzy has dedicated tremendous energy, common sense, uncanny political instinct, humor and the sheer force of her irresistible personality to recruiting, electing and supporting arms control champions in the U.S. House of Representatives.

As coordinator for outreach of the Council for a Livable World Education Fund, Suzy has worked closely with national coalitions and women's, human rights, environmental, health, budget and peace organizations to educate

and promote combined efforts to reduce the threat of nuclear war and lower military spending.

PeacePAC is an affiliate of the Council for a Livable World, founded in 1962 by nuclear scientists concerned about the menace of nuclear war. Since its inception, the Council has helped elect over 104 U.S. Senators. The Council's ability to raise millions of dollars for candidates has helped it gain recognition as the electoral arm of the peace movement. In 1982, the Council organized PeacePAC to help elect candidates to the House. As a non-partisan, grass-roots political action committee, PeacePAC supports candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives who are committed to nuclear arms control, nuclear disarmament, the prevention of nuclear war, and significant reductions in military spending.

It is a pleasure to honor Suzy—a fellow Michiganian, who has served in and out of political life in Washington since 1966 when she worked as a personal assistant to Representative Seymour Halpern from New York. She was elected as a Udall delegate to the Democratic Convention in 1976, and went on to serve President Carter as the Assistant Director of the White House Visitor's Office from 1977 to 1980. While raising her two children, Sarah and Charlie, with her husband, Gordon Kerr, she worked for the New York State Assembly in Washington, D.C., and completed her Bachelor of Arts at American University.

In the mid-eighties, she became the Field Director, and later the Washington Director for Women's Action for a New Direction (WAND). During Suzy's tenure at WAND, it was the only national women's activist and grassroots PAC focused on advocating for nuclear arms control and disarmament and reductions in military spending.

In 1991, Suzy became the Executive Director of PeacePAC. During Suzy's tenure, PeacePAC has raised nearly \$1.5 million for pro-arms control candidates. In the last few years, PeacePAC has contributed more to deservicing candidates in critical House races than all other peace political action committees combined. Currently, 78 Members of Congress have been helped by PeacePAC.

Representing concerned voters and contributors from across the country, Suzy has used PeacePAC's substantive expertise and political power to ensure that strong voices in the House are committed to reducing the nuclear threat and defining national security in terms of domestic as well as military concerns.

As PeacePAC supporters know, the sweeping changes in the post-Cold War world have given us an unprecedented opportunity to elect members who will question "big-ticket" items such as the B-2 Stealth Bomber and a misguided missile defense that has yet to test successfully. I am confident and grateful that even as Suzy completes her service, PeacePAC will continue to work for the election of candidates who will fight for policies and budgets that reflect the new international realities of an increasingly inter-dependent global community.

Of course, we wish Suzy every success in her new endeavor: supervising the day-to-day progress of her first grandchild, Porter Jay Iselin.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congress, the members and supporters of PeacePAC and the Council for a Livable World, and all who have benefited from her work, I thank you for

the opportunity to give recognition to Suzanne S. Kerr, for her service to the nation and the world on behalf of peace and security.

#### TRIBUTE TO HARRY W. EARLE JR.

##### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 3, 2001*

Mr. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Harry W. Earle Jr., a great American, an outstanding and devoted citizen and a respected community leader who passed away on April 26, 2001, at the age of 76. He and his wife Barbara of 56 years have three sons and two daughters, David, Gordon and John, Penhryn Cook and Barbara Ballard, as well as 11 grandchildren.

Born in Norwalk, Connecticut, Harry Earle made Darien, Connecticut his home for over 50 years. Harry Earle attended Williams College until his induction into the United States Air Force in 1943, during which time he flew more than fifty B-17 missions over southern Europe, earning the distinction of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

He began his career in the printing industry with McCall Corporation before becoming senior executive at J.W. Clement Company, Arcata Printing Company, and W.A. Krueger Company. He would later serve as President, CEO and Chairman of the Board of the Banta Corporation for over a decade. In 1989, Harry Earle received one of the highest honors of his profession when he was inducted into the Printing Industry Hall of Fame.

Harry Earle was also a proud and active member of the public sector. Upon his return from the Second World War, he became perhaps the youngest member ever elected to the Board of Selectmen in Darien. He would later serve on the Darien Police Commission, the Board of Finance, the Coastal Harbor Commission, the first and second Charter Revision Commission, Darien Library's Board of Trustees, and the Family Counseling Service. He also served as campaign director for the Darien United Way, and recently as chairman of the Darien Senior Men's Association.

Harry Earle was also known as a passionate student of art. The ease with which he mastered this subject is a testament to his considerable talent, with his work being shown, appreciated and celebrated in his community.

Harry Earle enriched the lives of countless people as an understanding and fair manager. With his intelligence, common sense, warmth, and wisdom, he earned the respect of everyone who crossed his path. I know this because I worked for him, and had the opportunity to see Harry Earle up close. His integrity, his grace under pressure, and his professionalism were instructive to me and have shaped my thinking, my approaches and my work throughout my adult life. For all his leadership qualities and corporate distinctions, Harry Earle was grounded in his faith and his family. These were the riches of his life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this good man and extend to his magnificent family our sympathy. Harry Earle was a man of many seasons. He was a gifted leader, a great husband, a terrific father, a proud grandfather, a master sailor, and a

fabulous tennis player. He was a proud American and a decent man. How privileged I was to have known him. How blessed our nation is to have had him as a son. We are a better people because of him.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE PENNSAUKEN HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND

##### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 3, 2001*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the hard work and effort of the Pennsauken High School Jazz Band. The Band has performed at the Inauguration of Christine Whiteman, Penns Landing in Philadelphia, Lincoln Center in New York City and various colleges and universities. They have won the Dixie Classics Championship and several other distinguished honors such as Best Rhythm Section, Best Trumpet Section, Best Trombone Section, outstanding soloist awards and many overall outstanding band awards. The Pennsauken Jazz Band secured 2nd place in the New Jersey State Finals, along with awards for the best trumpet section and rhythm section in the State. Additionally, the band has received a Superior Rating at every festival they have performed in. The members of the Spring 2000 Jazz Band are: Zachary Andrews; Frank Cuccio; Kristin Cuccio; Julia DePasquale; Anthony DiDomenico; Steven Engel; Eli Ferrer; Steven Forrest; Tim Gerard; Rob Hill; Christine Hinton; Rich Johnson; Ken Juray; Brian Kilpatrick; Nathan Kranefeld; Joe Lucidi; Jim MacKenzie; Ben Markowitz; Corey Mossop; Louis Muzyczek; Dominic Natale; Jeff Rivera; Rich Slack; Ernest Stuart; Perry Sutton; Vincent Williams. I wish you all the best and continued success in your endeavors.

#### IN HONOR OF 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT MARY, STAR OF THE SEA

##### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 3, 2001*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 140th Anniversary of Saint Mary, Star of the Sea. The church has served the community of Bayonne, New Jersey since 1861. Saint Mary's will celebrate its anniversary with a special dinner dance and liturgy on May 5, 2001.

Saint Mary, Star of the Sea is considered the Mother Church of Bayonne. It was founded in a small, humble church to serve the needs of Irish and German Catholic immigrants. Today, Saint Mary's resides in a beautiful Gothic style church, the cornerstone of which was laid on May 22, 1880. Construction was completed and the church was blessed on November 8, 1881.

Saint Mary's has benefited from the continuous presence of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, who have worked with the church since 1879, when the parish school opened. Today, the school, which offers pre-school through grade 8 instruction, has a student body of 300 children. Because of its